

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 DRC-01 /125 W

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R 071644Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8951

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

UNCLAS COPENHAGEN 1260

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PO, PFOR, AO, DA

SUBJECT: MPLA LEADERS VISIT DENMARK

REF: LISBON 1809

1. AGOSTINHO NETO, IDENTIFIED IN LOCAL PRESS AS MPLA
PRESIDENT, HAS MADE WELL PUBLICIZED VISIT TO DENMARK,
CALLING ON DANISH MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS P. NYBOE
ANDERSEN, AS WELL AS TOP SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LEADERS. HE
ALSO MET WITH CHAIRMAN OF DANISH COMMUNIST PARTY
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KNUD JESPERSEN. NETO WAS ACCOMPANIED BY LEADERS

OF MPLA "EAST FRONT", CARLOS ROCHA, AND "NORTH FRONT", JOSE EDUARDO.

2. NETO DECLARED DURING PRESS CONFERENCE THAT WAR IN ANGOLA WOULD CONTINUE UNTIL PORTUGAL OFFICIALLY DECLARED THAT IT RECOGNIZED THE ANGOLAN PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO INDEPENDENCE. BEFORE THAT IS DONE, THERE CAN NOT BE ANY TALK ABOUT NEGOTIATIONS, EVEN SECRET NEGOTIATIONS, HE REPORTEDLY SAID.

3. NEWSPAPERS ALSO REPORT NETO AS SAYING THAT "WE REJECT SPINOLA'S PROPOSAL FOR A FEDERATION OF PORTUGAL AND THE COLONEIS, BECUASE THE PORTUGUESE WOULD PLAY A LEADING ROLE IN IT. STRUGGLE WILL NOT STOP BEFORE OUR RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND FULL INDEPENDENCE IS RECOGNIZED IN LISBON." NETO ADMITTED THAT THERE WAS CONFLICT BETWEEN HIS ORGANIZATION AND ANOTHER AFRICAN MOVEMENT, FNLA, WHICH HAS ITS HEADQUARTERS IN KINSHASA. HE SAID THAT FNLA WAS HOLDING 20 MPLA PEOPLE PRISONER. ROCHA CLAIMED THAT MPLA HAS LIBERATED ONE THIRD OF ANGOLA, CONTAINED ONE-TENTH OF POPULATION, BUT NETO SAID THIS WAS NOT SUFFICIENT FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EXILE GOVERNMENT. THIS MIGHT BE DONE NEXT YEAR, HE COMMENTED.

4. NETO STATED THAT HE WAS AN OLD COLLEGE FRIEND OF PORTUGUESE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LEADER MARIO SOARES, AND THAT THEY HAD ALSO BEEN IN PRISON TOGETHER. ASKED WHETHER HE WOULD MEET WITH SOARES TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS, HE SAID THAT IF SOARES REPRESENTED NEW PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT HE WOULD NOT MEET HIM UNTIL THAT GOVERNMENT HAD RECOGNIZED THEIR (AFRICAN) RIGHTS.

5. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS FROM MFA SOURCES THAT NETO WAS MORE FLEXIBLE ABOUT POSSIBLE COMPROMISE SOLUTIONS WITH PORTUGUESE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH MINISTRY OFFICIALS THAN HE APPEARED DURING HIS PUBLIC APPEARANCES.
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